

Minneapolis Redistricting Commission Minutes

Regular Session of the Redistricting Commission
Thursday, April 11, 2002, 6 PM
Room 317 City Hall

Present: Commissioners: Trostel, Claypatch, Collier, Ferrara, Finch, Markus,
Pettiford, Schwarzkopf, Stafford, Neiman, Scallon

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call
Commission Chair Trostel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
All Commission members were present.
2. Approval of the Agenda
Ferrara moved to approve the agenda. Claypatch seconded the motion. It was approved on a unanimous voice vote.
3. Approval of the Minutes for April 8, 2002
Ferrara moved to approve the minutes. Pettiford seconded the motion. Motion adopted on a unanimous voice vote as amended.
4. Public Testimony
Chair Trostel opened the public hearing and announced that each speaker would have approximately two minutes to provide testimony and then Commissioners may ask follow-up questions.

Ronald Edwards, substituting for the 5th Ward Council Member Natalie Johnson Lee, spoke against the tentative plan.

Kevin D Johnson, representing Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the tentative plan.

Jon Rao Papke, Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of tentative plan as it related to retaining this neighborhood.

Steven Pundt, Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the tentative plan as it relates to this neighborhood.

Matthea Little Smith, 3542 13th Ave S, spoke against the tentative plan and in favor of the NAACP plan.

Mark Kosmas, 3435 Lyndale Ave N, representing himself, spoke against the tentative plan and in favor of the NAACP plan.

David Brauer, representing Kingfield Neighborhood Association, stated that they don't disapprove of a neighborhood split but asked that this neighborhood not be isolated.

Terrell Brown, 110 W. Grant St #30H, representing himself, spoke for the plan that keeps the Loring Park Neighborhood in the downtown area.

Beth Hart, representing Midtown Phillips, spoke against the tentative plan because it splits their community into three wards.

Gregory Luce, representing himself, his 2 1/2 year old son, and the 7th Ward, spoke against the tentative plan and believes the downtown area is not kid friendly.

Eva Young, lives in the Central Neighborhood and represented herself, spoke against the tentative plan and the NAACP plan.

Commissioner Schwarzkopf, asked by Tony Hill, 1812 Quincy St NE, to speak on his behalf, stated that Mr. Hill is concerned with the 5th Ward in the tentative plan.

Natonia Johnson, representing herself as a 5th Ward resident, spoke against the tentative plan and believes it doesn't represent the people of color.

Robert Woods, 1515 Fremont Ave N, representing Community Collaborative and stating that he is speaking for the people of the 5th Ward, spoke against the tentative plan.

Scott Persons, 3239 Nicollet Ave, Lyndale Neighborhood Association, spoke for the tentative plan and asked that this neighborhood remain in one ward.

Tameshia Larkins, resident on Golden Valley Road and representing her family and also the small business owners in the 5th Ward, spoke against the tentative plan.

Travis Lee, 1700 Oliver Ave N in the 5th Ward, spoke against the tentative plan and the NAACP plan as not in the best interest of Minneapolis.

James Everett, 612 Oliver Ave N in the 5th Ward, representing himself and the Subzero Collective, spoke against the tentative plan and stating that it ignored the disadvantages of the people of color.

Robert Brock, Northside resident and a community activist, spoke against the tentative plan and stated that the wealth is unevenly divided.

Jim Grabek, 416 River St - The Landings, would like the Noth Loop neighborhood to be part of the downtown ward.

Sue John, 428 N 1st St, representing herself, spoke against the tentative plan and in favor of the present Zimmermann plan.

Michael Krause, 433 S 7th St #2025, representing himself, spoke for the tentative plan and as the downtown area being a neighborhood where people live.

Marc Miller, representing himself as a 5th Ward resident, spoke against the tentative plan and recommended that the Commissioners work with Council Members to have more people work on this plan.

Wesley Smith, speaking for Clarence Hightower who is President of Minneapolis Urban League, spoke against all maps.

Marcus Harcus, representing himself, spoke against both the tentative plan and the NAACP plan and disempowering the 5th Ward.

Dennis L Wagner, 2709 Knox Ave N, representing himself and the Jordon Neighborhood, spoke against the tentative plan.

Keesha Gaskins, representing the Minneapolis NAACP, spoke against the tentative plan and in favor of the NAACP plan.

Cam Gordon, Chair of the Green Party and a neighborhood activist residing in the Seward Neighborhood, spoke against the tentative plan and in favor of the Zimmerman Plan. He shares the concerns of the 5th Ward.

Duane K. Reed, representing himself. He is President of Renaissance on the River and a resident of North Loop Neighborhood that is currently part of the 5th Ward, and spoke against the tentative plan. He wants their ward to be diverse.

Vic Thorstenson, representing himself from the Marcy Holms Neighborhood, spoke against the 3rd Ward part of the tentative plan and strongly supports the NAACP plan.

Karl Knutsen, South Minneapolis resident and from the Friends of Brackett Park, recommended a list of proposed changes to the plan, which were in the materials he had to distribute.

Keith Reitman, representing himself. He is a member of the West Broadway Coalition but not speaking for that organization. He spoke against the tentative plan and would like to have West Broadway a part of the downtown infrastructure.

Joe Addie Munson, representing herself and Cosmopolitan Health Care Program, requested that her ward remain unchanged.

Annie Young, residing at 26th & Cedar, representing herself and speaking for the Native American Community, spoke against dividing the Little Earth Housing Project.

Evelyn Eubanks, representing Parents Union, spoke against the tentative plan and the NAACP plan.

Maurice S Hickman, said he represents himself as a person of color and he represents his whole race.

Sheila Cracraft Fehler, 4116 32nd Ave S, representing herself, stated that she is concerned about the plan in her area and is confused as who would be representing this area.

Jens Christensen, 1808 11th Ave, former City Council Member, representing himself, recommends having all Council Member sharing the downtown area.

Roxanne Robinson, representing herself as a resident of the 5th Ward, asked the Commissioners to vote their conscience.

Ken Jerome-Stern, 37 Upton Ave S, Bryn Mawr Neighborhood, recommended the downtown area as a hub split into many districts.

Eve White, representing herself, spoke in favor of the Zimmermann Plan.

Betty L. Tucker, resident of the 5th Ward, stated that she was speaking for Erwin Trotte and spoke against the tentative plan.

Ellie Webster, 5601 24th Ave S, representing Little Earth Community, spoke against splitting this community into two wards.

Jolene Jones, 2501 Cedar Ave S, representing the Little Earth Community, spoke against splitting the community into two wards.

Thomas Lincoln, 510 7th Ave SE, representing himself and the Marcy Holmes Neighborhood, spoke against the tentative plan.

Laurice Jamieson, 610 6th Street SE in the Marcy Holmes Neighborhood, spoke in favor of one ward for this neighborhood and consideration for the Little Earth Community.

James Jencks, 3401 Colfax Av, representing himself as a city planning consultant for poor neighborhoods, spoke against the tentative plan and in favor of splitting downtown as a way to divide the poor. He supports the Zimmermann plan or the NAACP highbred. He recommends keeping NRP neighborhoods as whole entities.

Kelly Carver, 1115 5th Street SE, represents himself and the Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Association, wants this neighborhood to remain in Ward 2.

Shada Buyobe-Hammond, 1107 E 22nd St, resident of the Phillips Neighborhood, ACORN, spoke against the tentative plan and asked for a delay in the decision scheduled for April 12.

Bernie Ruffenach, 1770 Bryant Ave S, resident of the 7th Ward, requested that the Commission redo the 5th and 7th wards and showed a map with those changes.

Chris Wilson, 416 5th Ave SE, resident of the Marcy Holmes Neighborhood, wants the neighborhood to be in one ward joined with other areas around the University of Minnesota.

Greg Thomas, 3716 Brookdale Drive, member of Zion Baptist Church in the 5th Ward, stated that they are not fully accepting of the proposed plan. He asked that the Little Earth Community remain in one ward and to not concentrate poverty. He believes the NAACP plan would cut the voting power of the people.

Carol A. White, 4728 Washburn N, representing the African American Women, is a middle school teacher residing in the 4th Ward, spoke against the tentative plan stating that it needs diversity.

Lisa Crockett, 2011 Thomas Ave N, resident of the 5th Ward, spoke against the tentative plan and in support of the Green Party plan.

Lynn Levine, 1941 Ewing Ave S, spoke in favor of the Zimmermann plan.

Rhea Blue Arm, 1900 E 25 1/2 St, spoke against splitting the Little Earth Community.

Robin Garwood, 2316 22nd Ave S, resident of the Seward Neighborhood and serving on the Green Party Steering Committee, asked the Commission to continue the process and to compromise. He recommends Seward be in one

neighborhood. He spoke in favor of the Zimmermann Plan for the 3rd and 8th wards. He recommended keeping the 5th Ward in the downtown area.

Jonathan Palmer, 1800 Stevens Ave. S, representing himself, spoke against the tentative plan and believes the people are being legislated out of the homes.

Karl Knutsen, South Minneapolis resident and from the Friends of Brackett Park, attempted to speak a second time and was ruled out of order. He was assured that the Commission had received his materials.

Chair Trostel closed the public hearing as there were no further requests to provide testimony.

5. Receive information from the Park Board Redistricting Commissioners.
Commissioner Scallon stated that the proposed Park Board plan will be printed and distributed on Friday, April 12.

The largest deviation are -1.54 and +.81. There is not a significant change from 1974.

District 1 has 22.6% minority population

District 2 has 65.54% minority population

District 3 has 56.57% minority population

District 4 has 33.8% minority population

District 5 has 28.3% minority population

District 6 has 17.4% minority population

They tried to maintain the neighborhood boundaries.

6. New Business

There was no new business.

7. Adjournment.

Pettiford moved to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. Collier seconded the motion. It passed on unanimous voice vote.

**Next Redistricting Commission Meeting: April 12, 2002 at noon
in Room 220 City Hall**

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Submitted by:

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Elections Department

Jan Hrncir
Chief Council Committee Coordinator